

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PRETOR 04349 131430Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /065 W

----- 122518

R 131348Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3161

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USUN NEW YORK 1119

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4349

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PDEV, WA, SF

SUBJECT:

IDU PLESSIS RESIGNS CABINET SEAT TO JOIN NAMIBIAN TALKS

REFERENCE: PRETORIA 4337

1. SAG MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
A.H. DU PLESSIS ANNOUNCED NOV 12 HIS RESIGNATION FROM
CABINET IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN NAMIBIAN CONSTITUTIONAL
CONFERENCE. CONFERENCE EARLIER HAD ACCEPTED DU PLESSIS'S
CREDENTIALS AS DELEGATE ON CONDITION THAT HE LEAVE CABINET
(REFTEL). AS OFFICIAL LEADER OF SWA NATIONAL PARTY,
DU PLESSIS WILL ASSUME LEADERSHIP OF WHITE DELEGATION OVER
DIRK MUDGE, LEADER OF SWA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND ONE OF
PRIME MOVERS BEHIND TALKS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PRETOR 04349 131430Z

2. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AT TALKS, DELEGATES NOV 13 WILL DISCUSS PROPOSAL TO ALLOW "MINORITY GROUPS AND BODIES" TO PRESENT EVIDENCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE. APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL WOULD OPEN WAY FOR FEDERAL PARTY (FORMERLY UNITED PARTY) TO PARTICIPATE, AND COULD PROVIDE MEANS FOR SWAPO OR NAMIBIA NATIONAL CONVENTION (NNC) TO FORMALLY EXPRESS VIEWS. PROPOSAL REFERS TO GROUPS "SUPPORTING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION" TO TERRITORY'S PROBLEMS, HOWEVER, AND THIS CONCEIVABLY COULD BE USED TO EXCLUDE SWAPO AND NNC. CONFERENCE ALSO IS SCHEDULED TO REVIEW EARLIER DECISION TO MAINTAIN SECRECY AT TALKS.

3. COMMENT: REPLACEMENT OF MUDGZYUY DU PLESSIS AS LEADER OF WHITE DELEGATION HAS CAUSED SOME CONSTERNATION AMONG SUPPORTERS OF TALKS. MUDGE HAS BEEN NOTED FOR HIS FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE TOWARD ACCOMMODATION WITH BLACK DESIRES AND APPARENTLY HAS GAINED THE TRUST OF BLACK DELEGATES. WHILE DU PLESSIS IS CONSIDERED BY MOST OBSERVERS TO BE MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN MUDGE IN HIS APPROACH TO A SOLUTION FOR THE TERRITORY'S PROBLEMS, HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE AS CONSERVATIVE OR HARD-LINE AS ELEMENT REPRESENTED BY DELEGATE VAN ZIJL. GROWING BEHIND-THE-SCENES TENSION BETWEEN MUDGE AND VAN ZIJL MAY HAVE PROMPTED DU PLESSIS' PARTICIPATION IN HOPE OF PREVENTING OPEN BREECH IN WHITE RANKS. IF DU PLESSIS ADOPTS HARD-LINE, HOWEVER, CONFERENCE'S POSSIBILITIES FOR SUCCESS WILL BE IN SERIOUS DOUBT.

4. SINCE FOREGOING DRAFTED, FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTY FOURIE CONFIDED TO AMBASSADOR THAT DU PLESSIS HAD IN FACT BEEN THINKING ABOUT RETURN TO SWA POLITICAL ARENA FOR SOME TIME. IF TRUE, THIS COULD BE INDICATION OF IMPORTANCE DU PLESSIS SEES IN TALKS AND IN POSSIBILITY OF A SEPARATE SWA POLITICAL STATUS EMERGING AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

BOWDLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAMIBIA, CABINET, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, POLITICAL LEADERS, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR04349
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750395-0787
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751146/aaaabovn.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PRETORIA 4337
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, WA, SF, (DU PLESSIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006